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1896.]

## Stated Meeting, December 18, 1896.

Vice-President, Dr. PEPPER, in the Chair.

## Present, 34 members.

On motion the regular order of business was suspended and Drs. W. H. Furness and Hiller gave an account of their recent journey in Borneo and the Loo-Choo Islands.

Minutes of December 4 read and approved.

Correspondence was submitted as follows:

Letter from the President of the Geological Society of Washington, requesting the coöperation of this Society with the Pasteur Monument Committee of the United States in collecting subscriptions for the erection of a monument at Paris, to Pasteur.

Letter from the Observatorio Meteorl. y Astron., San Salvador, C. A., announcing the death of its Director, Dr. Don Alberto Sanchez.

Circular letter from M. Julián Aparicio, announcing his appointment to succeed Dr. Don Alberto Sanchez as Director of the Observatorio Meteorl. y Astron., San Salvador, C. A.

Letter of resignation from Mr. E. A. Barber, West Chester, Pa., December 9, 1896. Resignation accepted.

Letters of acknowledgment (*Trans.*, N. S., xix, 1), from the Public Library, Boston, Mass.; American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.; Yale University, New Haven, Conn.; Buffalo Library, Buffalo, N. Y.; Historical Society, New York, N. Y.; Academy Natural Sciences, University of Pennsylvania, Historical Society, Philadelphia; State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison; Kansas Academy of Science, Topeka.

Letters of acknowledgment of Proceedings from the Naturf. Gesellschaft, Dorpat, Russia (149); Tashkent Observatory, Tashkent, Russia (150); R. Zool. Society, "Natura Artis Magistra," Amsterdam, Netherlands (150, 151); Colonial Museum, Haarlem, Holland (150, 151); K. K. Naturhist. Hofmuseum, Vienna, Austria (150); K. Leop.

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Carol. Akad. der Naturforscher, Halle a. S. (150); Dr. Paul Heyse, Munich, Bavaria (150); Prof. Paolo Montegazza, Florence, Italy (147); Soc. Géologique de Normandie, Havre, France (150); Soc. Française de Physique, Soc. Philologique, Comte de Charencey, Paris, France (150); R. Acad. de Ciencias y Artes, Barcelona, Spain (143, 145–149); Academy of Sciences, New York, N. Y. (136); Dr. Charles Schäffer, Philadelphia (151).

Accessions to the Library were reported from the Exhibition Trustees, Melbourne, Australia; Acad. Sciences, Cracow, Austria; K. P. Geodat. Institutes, Berlin; Verein f. Erdkunde, Halle a. S., Prussia; K. Sächs. Meteorl. Institut, Chemnitz; K. B. Akad. der Wissenschaften, Munich, Bavaria; Soc. de Physique, Paris, France; Literary and Philosophical Society, Manchester, Eng.; Mr. Edward Waldo Emerson, Cambridge, Mass.; American Museum Natural History, New York, N. Y.; Vassar Brothers' Institute, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; American Academy Political and Social Science, First Unitarian Church, Philadelphia; Pennsylvania State College; Columbian University, Washington, D. C.; Colorado College Scientific Society, Colorado Springs; Institute of Jamaica, Kingston.

The Wistar Institute acknowledges the gifts of busts of Dr. Franklin and Dr. Caspar Wistar.

The President announced by letter that he had appointed Mr. F. H. Cushing, Dr. Thomas N. Gill and Dr. D. G. Brinton, to represent this Society at a meeting to be held in Washington in memory of G. Brown Goode.

A letter from Mr. Cassell gives the following information: Benjamin Rittenhouse, brother of David, died August 31, 1825, Ninth street above Vine, in this city, and was buried September 2, in St. James' Cemetery, at Evansburg, Montgomery county, Pa.

The Committee appointed to arrange for the quarterly meetings at which subjects of broad philosophic interest were to be discussed made a report of their doings for the year.

The Finance Committee made report that they had examined the Treasurer's accounts, and found them correct. The appropriations for the coming year were recommended, and on motion approved by the Society.

The pending nominations were then read and spoken to, and the ballots cast.

New nominations 1364 to 1369 were then read.

Mr. Price then offered a resolution directing the printing of the ballots for the election to be held January 1.

The Tellers then reported that:

2299. William Francis Magee, Princeton, N. J.;

2300. G. Albert Lewis, Philadelphia;

2301. Benjamin W. Frazier, Bethlehem, Pa., had been elected to membership.

The rough minutes were then read and the Society adjourned.

## Glimpses of Borneo.

By William Henry Furness, 3rd, M.D.

(Read before The American Philosophical Society, December 18, 1896.)

The island of Borneo, lying directly under the Equator, is the second in size in the world (if we exclude Australia, to which, I believe, is generally given the dignity of being called a continent), Papua, or, as it is now called, New Guinea, being the largest, with an area of 306,000 square miles, while Borneo has an area of 286,000 square miles, or about that of France. Along the coast, and indeed for many miles inland, the country is flat and marshy, covered with a dense tangle of undergrowth, made up of thorny palms, ferns, and creepers of all sorts, including the beautiful variegated Nepenthes, or pitcher plant; above this undergrowth, which is dense to a height of fifteen or twenty feet, rise lofty, straight Camphor, Gutta, Durian and Tapang trees, whose foliage, at least from a distance, is hardly distinguishable from the common trees of our own woods and forests; perhaps the only features which distinguish the Bornean jungle, seen at a distance, from our ordinary forests are the topmost tufts of the Rattan palm, which is a creeper and forms a crown on the tree top, whereof the unexpanded central leaf creates the suspicion that the indefatigable lightning-rod agent had paid a visit